

## **The Oregonian**

# **Portland City Council to Consider New Protest Restrictions Thursday**

*By Gordon Friedman  
November 6, 2018*

The Portland City Council is scheduled to have a public hearing on an ordinance at Mayor Ted Wheeler's request Thursday that would place new restrictions on protests in the city.

The proposal, dubbed the Protest Safety Ordinance by Wheeler's office, is a direct response to the many political demonstrations that have devolved into violent street clashes in the last two years, which have caused injury and property damage and drawn unfavorable attention to Portland.

If adopted, Wheeler would be allowed broad powers over when and how people may speak their minds in public. He could order demonstrators to restrict the length of a rally and order it be held at a specific place. He could limit movement within a zone of the city. And he could order public buildings be closed to curtail protesters' access to high-up vantage points, given worrying use of a public parking garage rooftop by armed protesters in August. Violators would be subject to arrest and fines.

Wheeler could order the restrictions only under certain circumstances, including if protesting groups have a history of violence, or if there is a "substantial likelihood of violence" at a planned protest, according to a draft of the ordinance.

Yet Wheeler's ordinance lays out no method to challenge such an order. And Wheeler has near complete power over city law enforcement personnel because he is police commissioner, though nearly all of that authority is delegated to the police chief, Danielle Outlaw.

A legal challenge is all but certain to follow if the restrictions become city law. When the mayor's office announced the proposal in October, the state American Civil Liberties Union chapter said it may be unconstitutional and noted the city already has laws banning street violence.

Wheeler has maintained the ordinance is a lawful tool modeled upon laws in other cities that allow officials to crack down on violent demonstrators.

Passage of Wheeler's ordinance is uncertain. Only Commissioner Dan Saltzman has made statements supporting it, and the other three commissioners on the city council have made their skepticism clear in public statements.

The city council is scheduled to debate Wheeler's ordinance and take public comment at 2:15 p.m. Thursday in the council chambers in City Hall. Council meetings may be watched online live at [www.portlandoregon.gov/video](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/video).

# Two Winter Homeless Shelters to Open in November

*By Molly Harbarger  
November 5, 2018*

**Two winter shelters will open this month for homeless people to spend a warm night.**

Transition Projects will open Walnut Park around Thanksgiving for 80 people. The Multnomah County-owned building at 5329 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard will house men, women and couples in northeast Portland.

Congregation Beth Israel, 1972 N.W. Flanders St., will also re-open a winter shelter for 75 parents with children. The Jewish temple hosted a homeless shelter last winter, operated by nonprofit Portland Homeless Family Solutions.

The city-county Joint Office of Homeless Services is still looking for a third winter shelter space, said spokesman Denis Theriault.

The county-owned Mead Building, which opened as a winter shelter originally, continues as a year-round space for about 70 men. Similarly, the Salvation Army Female Emergency Shelter in Old Town and the Do Good veterans shelters previously converted 50 beds from winter-only to year-round.

The state's largest homeless shelter, Hansen in Southeast Portland, will close in June. It was always planned to close after a few years because the building is unsuited to a permanent shelter.

A publicly funded shelter in the county's Mead Building, which was opened as a winter shelter, has also been extended. It has space for 75 people.

## The Portland Tribune

### City Hall Update: Council OKs MAX Line Route For Southwest

*By Jim Redden  
November 6, 2018*

**Plus, water treatment forum set for Thursday and age-friendly businesses are praised by the City Council.**

The Portland City Council on Thursday unanimously approved the recommended route of the proposed Southwest Corridor MAX line.

The 12-mile line is intended to link the city, Tigard and Tualatin. It is estimated to cost between \$2.3 billion and \$2.9 billion, with half the funding coming from the federal government. Metro, the elected regional government, has promised to refer a transportation funding measure to the November 2020 ballot to help pay the other half.

Construction could start in 2022. TriMet will build, own and operate the line. The regional transit agency will appoint a new steering committee to decide such details as the exact alignment and station locations.

**Water treatment forum Thursday**

The Portland Water Bureau has announced a community forum on upcoming water treatment programs from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, at the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization, 10301 N.E. Glisan St.

Planned treatments over the next nine years include increased corrosion control to reduce the risk of lead entering the water from home plumbing fixtures by 2022, and the construction of a filtration plant to remove the microorganism cryptosporidium and other potential contaminants by 2027.

Those attending the forum will learn about the projects and will be able to ask questions and provide feedback to bureau staff and Commissioner Amanda Fritz, who now is in charge of the bureau. Free lead-testing kits, water bottles and a TriMet pass also will be provided at the event (as supplies last). A children's play area and refreshments will be available.

### **Age-friendly businesses praised**

The Portland City Council proclaimed Oct. 31 to be Age-Friendly Business Day.

Portland was the first U.S. city to be certified by the World Health Organization as Age-Friendly in 2011. The proclamation was intended to recognize businesses that are certified Age-Smart Employers, and to encourage others to embrace age-diversity and create workplaces that value equity, inclusiveness and intergenerational respect.

Present for the proclamation were representatives of Portland State University's Age-Friendly Cities Project, Elders in Action, AARP Oregon, and Venture Portland. Eleven local business were honored.